

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY: Korea
SUBJECT: North Korean Military Units

REPORT NO.

DATE DISTR.

25 March 1953

NO. OF PAGES

4

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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North Korean Army General Headquarters

1. In October 1952 the North Korean army general headquarters was in several dugouts at YD-433346, near Hach'u-dong (N 39-08, E 125-48) (YD-4235). The Combat Training Department was in 10 private houses at YD-457339, near Sarang-dong (N 39-07, E 125-50) (YD-4533). The Combat Research Department was in six grass-roofed houses at YD-439290, near Songam-ni (N 39-05, E 125-49) (YD-4429). The Ordnance Department was in two grass-roofed houses at YD-429335, near Mangdok-tong (N 39-07, E 125-48) (YD-4233), and dugouts excavated around these houses were used for storing arms and ammunition. The political Department was in former Buddhist temples at YD-408332, near Chaewon-gol (N 39-07, E 125-46) (YD-3933). Several subordinate offices of the Political Department were in

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(Note: Washington)

Approved For Release 2003/12/10 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000600680002-9

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20 private houses at YD-444298, near Pultang-gol (N 39-05, E 125-49) (YD-4429).

2. On 30 October 1952 the North Korean army general headquarters was at YD-372213, at the southern base of Ch'anggwang-san (N 39-01, E 125-44) (YD-3733), in P'yongyang. Approximately 175 Soviet advisers in civilian clothes worked at the headquarters. About 30 percent of these advisers had dependents in the area.

IV Corps Headquarters

3. In mid-October 1952 the headquarters of the IV Corps was in 40 dugouts at YD-304286, near Nop'o-ri (N 39-04, E 125-39) (YD-2927). The IV Corps commander, PAK Chong-tok (2612/6297/1795), aged 29, and the deputy commanding officer of artillery lived in two tile-roofed houses near the dugouts.¹

10 Division, IV Corps

- F-4 4. In mid-October 1952 the 10 Division, IV Corps, was defending the sea coast from Hail-li (N 39-36, E 125-27) (YD-1086) on the Ch'ong-ch'on estuary to the Hanch'on (N 39-12, E 125-25) (YD-0941) area. The headquarters of the 10 Division was at YD-1414, near Tokhung-ni (N 38-58, E 125-28) (YD-1416).²

21 Brigade, IV Corps

5. In early November 1952 the headquarters of the 21 Brigade, IV Corps, was at YC-560197, near Samjong-ni (N 38-05, E 125-55) (YC-5619), where it had been since late June 1952.³ The brigade commander was Senior Colonel YIM Chong-im (2651/2973/2651). There were 478 officers and 3,057 enlisted men assigned to the brigade. The brigade headquarters had the following weapons: 66 pistols, 85 automatic rifles, 37 Soviet rifles, and 3 light machine guns. Other equipment included 12 Soviet-made trucks, 6 jeeps, 4 horse-carts, 5 ox-carts, 5 bicycles, and 1 radio. Each soldier had 150 rounds of ammunition and carried 6 hand grenades. The headquarters of the 2 Battalion, 21 Brigade, was at YB-268891, near Sanji-gol (N 37-50, E 125-34) (YB-2690). The commanding officer of the 2 Battalion was Major HWANG Sang-yon (7806/4161/3348); the chief of staff was Captain KANG Hyo-son (1203/1321/0810); the deputy commanding officer on political affairs was Captain YANG Won-sop (2799/0337/3610). The 2 Battalion headquarters had 24 officers and 101 enlisted men. Equipment of the 2 Battalion headquarters included 23 pistols, 34 Soviet rifles, and 45 automatic rifles. Each member of the brigade received a daily ration of 500 grams of rice, 300 grams of other cereals, 300 grams of vegetables, and 20 grams of bean oil. Each soldier carried 2,400 grams of rice for emergency purposes. The daily tobacco ration was 12 cigarettes for officers and 10 grams of tobacco for enlisted men. However, this ration was irregular. In October 1952 one uniform and one set of underwear made of Soviet cloth had been issued to each soldier. A pair of North Korean-made labor shoes was issued every 3 months. Medical facilities were very poor. Serious medical cases were sent to P'yongyang for treatment.

29 Regiment, 4 Division, IV Corps

6. In mid-October 1952 the headquarters of the 29 Regiment, 4 Division, IV Corps, was in civilian houses at YD-198193, near Oesagi-dong (N 39-00, E 125-33) (YD-2119). The headquarters had been moved to its present location from Yongdam-ni (N 39-01, E 125-31) (YD-1821) on 15 September 1952, when it was attacked by United Nations planes. The Rear Service Bureau was at YD-193201, near Sang-dong (N 39-00, E 125-31) (YD-1819), and the medical center was at YD-187198,

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near Chung-dong (N 39-01, E 125-31) (YD-1821). The subordinate units of the 29 Regiment were stationed in dugouts in the mountains. The 1 Battalion was at YD-173204, near Chung-dong; the 2 Battalion was at YD-161203, near Imok-tong (N 39-01, E 125-30) (YD-1621); the 3 Battalion was at YD-156197, near Sokhyon-ni (N 39-00, E 125-28) (YD-1419); the automatic rifle company was at YD-174198, near Chung-dong; the signal company was at YD-171197, near Chung-dong; the 76-mm. howitzer company was at YD-216180, near Oesagi-dong; the 120-mm. mortar company was at YD-207174, near Anjong-ni (N 38-59, E 125-33) (YD-2118).

24 Brigade Headquarters, VII Corps

7. On 2 June 1952 the 24 Brigade headquarters, [] was in nine buildings scattered in an area centering on CU-628310, near Susong-ni (N 39-07, E 127-24) (CU-6231).⁴ There were two jeep roads leading into the area, one from the south and one from the west, which branched off from two ox-cart roads at CU-624309 and CU-629306. These two jeep roads had recently been constructed by members of the brigade headquarters. The brigade commander's office was in a wooden building with a tin roof at CU-628311, immediately north of the junction of the two new roads. There was a guard post in front of this building and directly east of the building was an air-raid shelter 20 meters long, supported by pine logs, and dug 3 meters into the mountain. This shelter could accommodate 200 men. It was usually used for a movie theater. The officers' barracks were east of the air-raid shelter. Directly in front of the barracks was another guard post. The headquarters area had approximately 30 guards armed with PPSH-41's. These men were billeted in a barracks with a tin roof and glass windows. The guard house had a tin roof and was at CU-628310. The guards wore North Korean army uniforms. The chief guard wore a red armband 10 centimeters wide with "Chief Guard" written on it in white Korean characters. There were five other buildings in the area belonging to the 24 Brigade headquarters at CU-627308, CU-628309, CU-629309, CU-629310, and CU-629312.

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560 Army Unit

8. In early September 1952 the headquarters of the 560 Army Unit⁵ was in underground rooms at YD-394359, near Namgunni-sanum-dong (N 39-08, E 125-46) (YD-3935). The 1 Regiment was in approximately 20 underground rooms at YD-394365; the 2 Regiment was in approximately 20 underground rooms at YD-398363; the 3 Regiment was in approximately 20 underground rooms at YD-400350 and YD-403348, near Chajak-tong (N 39-08, E 125-47) (YD-4135). The approximate strength of the unit was 4,000. The 560 Army Unit was in the process of reorganization because of heavy losses at the front. The unit was also engaged in training, trench construction work, and road repair work. New recruits were given basic military training daily between 7 and 8 a.m. Communist ideology was also taught daily. The commanding general was Major General KANG Yong-sik (1660/7893/2784), aged 34.

915 Army Unit Tank Maintenance Shop

9. On 11 October 1952 a tank maintenance shop of the 915 Army Unit was at YD-380223, in P'yongyang.⁶ The shop was manned by approximately 600 men, including 50 officers. Equipment included five lathes, two ball-bearing machines, one welding machine, one generator, and seven electric motors. The technicians of the unit were former civilian technicians who had been recruited about 7 January 1951. Automobiles, tanks, field artillery, and anti-aircraft guns were repaired by this unit. Damaged heavy equipment was disassembled in the field.

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and transported to the shop by trucks of the unit. Damaged weapons and automobiles were repaired by technicians of the unit who were dispatched to the area where they were damaged. The majority of the minor repairs were in the central and east front areas. The daily ration for members of the unit was 800 grams of staple food per person, plus soy beans, pork, and other side dishes. Clothing, shoes, and other commodities were also issued.

Rest Centers for North Korean Army Heroes

10. In early October 1952 a rest center for heroes of the North Korean army was at CV-813203, near Kwiju Temple (N 39-56, E 127-36) (CV-8021). Two surgeons and five civilians were assigned to the center. Since December 1950 North Korean soldiers who have received hero titles have been granted leave for 1 month at various rest centers.

Field Comments

- 25X1 1. [] on 30 September 1952 the IV Corps commander was Major General KIM Ch'ol-u.
2. [] the 10 Division was accepted as inactivated in May 1952 and its personnel distributed as replacements to front-line divisions and coastal-defense units. 25X1
- 25X1 3. [] in mid-August 1952 the 21 Brigade was stationed at Sanjong-ni (N 37-57, E 126-08) (BT-4804). It was reported 25X1 [] that on 13 August the 21 Brigade headquarters was in the hills approximately 2 kilometers northeast of the Hwanghae Reservoir (N 38-02, E 126-00) (BT-3713). 25X1 [] reported that on 25 July 1952 the 21 Brigade headquarters was at XC-825402, in Chungam-dong (N 38-18, E 125-05) (XC-8241). 25X1 [] reported that on 17 December 1952 the 21 Brigade headquarters was in four bunkers in a pine forest at YC-477168, near Honggyo-dong (N 38-58, E 125-51) (YD-4717), and in houses in Honggyo-dong.
- 25X1 4. [] on 19 November 1952 the 24 Brigade headquarters was at CU-635303, near Sangil-li (N 39-06, E 127-25) (CU-6329).
5. The Reconnaissance Bureau of the North Korean army general headquarters is also called the 560 Unit. The subordination of the 560 Army Unit is not known by this office.
- 25X1 6. [] Comment. According to information [] in late 25X1 October 1952 a tank repair shop attached to the 915 Unit was in a former Japanese army barracks at YD-448206, near Pultang-gol (N 39-00, E 125-48) (YD-4220).

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During October 1952 about 200 Soviet, Czechoslovakian, and Hungarian artillery technicians in civilian clothes were observed driving in Soviet jeeps in P'yongyang.¹ They were soon to be attached to North Korean army artillery units as instructors.

1. [] Comment. [] reported that in March 1952 a group of 170 Soviet and 80 Hungarian officers arrived at YD-24235, near P'yongyang, to assist in the training of North Korean army units.

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